

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1, 9, 11, 13, 15, and 16 in accordance with the following:

1. (currently amended) An Internet appliance (IA) terminal user management system which is connected to an IA terminal via a network, comprising:

an IA terminal user storing unit storing IA terminal information including an IA terminal identifier for identifying a number or mark of a manufacturer of the IA terminal, service information including the kind of service to be received, and user registration information including user information concerning the user who receives the service, said IA terminal information representing registration information required for an Internet connection;

a transmission and receiving unit on the side of the IA terminal user management system, transmitting and receiving the user registration information to and from the IA terminal, and requests the IA terminal to input the user registration information;

a user registration information collation unit collating the user registration information received by the transmission and receiving unit on the side of the IA terminal user management system with the user registration information stored in the IA terminal user storing unit and writing the user registration information in the IA terminal user storing unit if necessary; and

an automatic registration unit obtaining the user registration information which has not been collated by the user registration information collation unit from the IA terminal by means of the transmission and receiving unit on the side of the IA terminal user management system and registering said information in the IA terminal user storing unit.

2. (original) The IA terminal user management system according to claim 1, wherein the transmission and receiving unit on the side of the IA terminal user management system receives user registration information including the IA terminal identifier from the IA terminal;

the user registration information collation unit collates the received user registration information with the user registration information stored in the IA terminal user storing unit;

the transmission and receiving unit on the side of the IA terminal user management system transmits the collated result to the IA terminal;

the transmission and receiving unit on the side of the IA terminal user management system receives additional user registration information which is not included in the received user registration information from the IA terminal; and

the automatic registration unit registers the received additional user registration information in the IA terminal user storing unit.

3. (original) The IA terminal user management system according to claim 1, wherein the IA terminal user storing unit comprises:

a machine table which stores the IA terminal identifier in association with a user identifier for identifying the user;

a subscriber table which stores the user identifier in association with a service provider identifier for identifying the service provider who provides the service; and

an affinity table which stores the service provider identifier in association with the registration procedure for registering the user determined by the service provider.

4. (original) The IA terminal user management system according to claim 2, wherein the IA terminal user storing unit comprises:

a machine table which stores the IA terminal identifier in association with a user identifier for identifying the user;

a subscriber table which stores the user identifier in association with a service provider identifier for identifying the service provider who provides the service; and

an affinity table which stores the service provider identifier in association with the registration procedure for registering the user determined by the service provider.

5. (original) The IA terminal user management system according to claim 1, wherein the automatic registration unit erases the user registration information stored in the IA terminal user storing unit.

6. (original) The IA terminal user management system according to claim 2, wherein the automatic registration unit erases the user registration information stored in the IA terminal user storing unit.

7. (original) The IA terminal user management system according to claim 3, wherein the automatic registration unit erases the user registration information stored in the IA terminal user storing unit.

8. (original) The IA terminal user management system according to claim 4, wherein the automatic registration unit erases the user registration information stored in the IA terminal user storing unit.

9. (currently amended) The IA terminal which performs information communication via a network, comprising:

a transmission and receiving unit on the side of the IA terminal, transmitting and receiving IA terminal information including an IA terminal identifier for identifying a number or mark of a manufacturer of the IA terminal, service information including the kind of service to be received, and user registration information including user information concerning the user who receives the service to and from the IA terminal user management system which manages the IA terminal via the network, said IA terminal information representing registration information required for an Internet connection; and

an input unit inputting insufficient user registration information based on the request of the IA terminal user management system and writing the user registration information in a user storing unit of the IA terminal;

whereas the transmission and receiving unit on the IA terminal transmits the user registration information inputted by the input unit to the IA terminal user management system.

10. (original) The IA terminal according to claim 9, wherein the transmission and receiving unit on the side of the IA terminal transmits user registration information including the IA terminal identifier to the IA terminal user management system;

the transmission and receiving unit on the side of the IA terminal receives the result of having collated the transmitted user registration information and the user registration information stored in the IA terminal user storing unit with which the IA terminal user management system is provided;

the input unit inputs additional user registration information which is not included in the received user registration information; and

the transmission and receiving unit on the side

of the IA terminal transmits the inputted additional user registration information to the IA terminal user management system.

11. (currently amended) An IA terminal user management program which makes a computer with which the IA terminal user management system managing the IA terminal connected via a network is provided realize:

the function which stores, in a database, IA terminal information including an IA terminal identifier for identifying a number or mark of a manufacturer of the IA terminal, service information including the kind of service to be received, ~~and~~ user registration information including user information concerning the user who receives the service, said IA terminal information representing registration information required for an Internet connection;

the function which transmits and receives the user registration information to and from the IA terminal, and requests the IA terminal to input the user registration information ;

the function which collates the received user registration information with the user registration information stored in the database and writes the user registration information in a user storing unit of the IA terminal; and

the function which obtains the user registration information which is not collated by the collating function from the IA terminal, and automatically registers said information in the database.

12. (original) The IA terminal user management program according to claim 11, wherein

the function which transmits and receives the user registration information and requests the IA terminal to input the user registration information receives user registration information including the IA terminal identifier from the IA terminal;

the collating function collates the received user registration information with the user registration information stored in the database;

the function which transmits and receives the user registration information and requests the IA terminal to input the user registration information transmits the result of having collated said information to the IA terminal; and

the function which transmits and receives the user registration information and requests the IA terminal to input the user registration information receives additional user registration information which is not included in the received user registration information from the IA terminal, and the automatically registering function registers the received additional user

registration information in the database.

13. (currently amended) The IA terminal user management program which makes a computer with which the IA terminal performing information communication via a network is provided realize:

the function which transmits and receives IA terminal information including an IA terminal identifier for identifying a number or mark of a manufacturer of the IA terminal, service information including the kind of service to be received, and user registration information including user information concerning the user who receives the service to and from the IA terminal user management system which manages the IA terminal via a network, said IA terminal information representing registration information required for an Internet connection; and

the function which inputs insufficient user registration information based on the request of the IA terminal user management system, and writes the user registration information in a user storing unit of the IA terminal;

whereas the transmission and receiving function transmits the inputted user registration information to the IA terminal user management system.

14. (original) The IA terminal user management program according to claim 13, wherein

the transmission and receiving function transmits user registration information including the IA terminal identifier to the IA terminal user management system;

the transmission and receiving function receives the result of having collated the transmitted user registration information with the user registration information stored in the database with which the IA terminal user management system is provided from the IA terminal user management system;

the input function inputs additional user registration information which is not included in the received user registration information; and

the transmission and receiving function transmits the inputted additional user registration information to the IA terminal user management system.

15. (currently amended) An Internet appliance user management system which is connected to an IA terminal via a network, comprising:

IA terminal user storing means for storing IA terminal information including an IA terminal identifier for identifying a number or mark of a manufacturer of the IA terminal, service

information including the kind of service to be received, and user registration information including user information concerning the user who receives the service, said IA terminal information representing registration information required for an Internet connection;

transmission and receiving means for on the side of the IA terminal user management system, transmitting and receiving the user registration information to and from the IA terminal, and requests the IA terminal to input the user registration information;

user registration information collation means for collating the user registration information received by the transmission and receiving means on the side of the IA terminal user management system with the user registration information stored in the IA terminal user storing means and for writing the user registration information in the IA terminal user storing means; and

automatic registration means for obtaining the user registration information which has not been collated by the user registration information collation means from the IA terminal by means of the transmission and receiving means on the side of the IA terminal user management system and registering said information in the IA terminal user storing means.

16. (currently amended) The IA terminal which performs information communication via a network, comprising:

transmission and receiving means for on the side of the IA terminal, transmitting and receiving IA terminal information including an IA terminal identifier for identifying a number or mark of a manufacturer of the IA terminal, service information including the kind of service to be received, and user registration information including user information concerning the user who receives the service to and from the IA terminal user management system which manages the IA terminal via the network, said IA terminal information representing registration information required for an Internet connection; and

input means for inputting insufficient user registration information based on the request of the IA terminal user management system and writing the user registration information in a user storing unit of the IA terminal;

whereas the transmission and receiving means on the IA terminal transmits the user registration information inputted by the input means to the IA terminal user management system.